

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-9, 12, and 13 have been allowed, and Claims 10 and 11 have been amended, leaving Claims 10 and 11 for further consideration upon entry of the present amendment.

Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to facilitate prosecution. More particularly, Claims 10 and 11 have been rewritten to depend from allowed independent Claim 1. As dependent claims from an allowed independent claim, Claims 10 and 11, are, by definition, also allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the entire application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

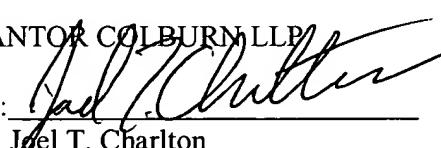
Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,229,506 to Dawson et al.

This rejection is moot, as Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to depend from allowed independent Claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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